

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19 (canceled).

20 (new). A bearing element comprising a base layer made from an aluminium alloy, the base layer being disposed between a protective shell and a running layer directly disposed on the base layer, wherein the aluminium alloy is an aluminium wrought alloy consisting of an aluminium matrix incorporating up to 4.5%, by weight, of a soft phase consisting of at least one element of a first group of elements consisting of tin, antimony, indium and bismuth; hard particles consisting of up to 0.8%, by weight, of scandium and/or zirconium, up to 8.5%, by weight, of at least one element of a second group of elements consisting of copper, manganese, cobalt, chromium, zinc, magnesium, silicon and iron, and inter-metallic phases of scandium and/or zirconium with aluminium or aluminium with elements of the second group of elements; and the rest comprised of aluminium with the usual impurities contained in the melt.

21 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the base layer is disposed directly on the protective shell.

22 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the running layer is made from an alloy with a base of lead, tin, bismuth, indium or copper.

23 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein up to 3.5%, by weight, of at least one of the elements of the second group of elements is present.

24 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.1%, by weight, of the soft phase.

25 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.1%, by weight, of the second group of elements.

26 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.05%, by weight, of scandium and/or zirconium.

27 (new). The bearing element of claim 20, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates from 0.01% to 0.5%, by weight, of

zirconium.

28 (new). The bearing element of claim 27, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates from 0.05% to 0.5%, by weight, of scandium.

29 (new). A base layer for a bearing element made from an aluminium alloy, the base layer being disposed between a protective shell and a running layer disposed directly on the base layer, wherein the aluminium alloy is an aluminium wrought alloy consisting of an aluminium matrix incorporating up to 4.5%, by weight, of a soft phase consisting of at least one element of a first group of elements consisting of tin, antimony, indium and bismuth; hard particles consisting of up to 0.8%, by weight, of scandium and/or zirconium, up to 8.5%, by weight, of at least one element of a second group of elements consisting of copper, manganese, cobalt, chromium, zinc, magnesium, silicon and iron, and inter-metallic phases of scandium and/or zirconium with aluminium or aluminium with elements of the second group of elements; and the rest comprised of aluminium with the usual impurities contained in the melt.

30 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the base layer is disposed directly on the protective shell.

31 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the running layer is made from an alloy with a base of lead, tin, bismuth, indium or copper.

32 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein up to 3.5%, by weight, of at least one of the elements of the second group of elements is present.

33 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.1%, by weight, of the soft phase.

34 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.1%, by weight, of the second group of elements.

35 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates at least 0.05%, by weight, of scandium and/or zirconium.

36 (new). The base layer of claim 35, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates from 0.05% to 0.5%, by weight, of scandium.

37 (new). The base layer of claim 36, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates up to 0.25%, by weight, of scandium.

38 (new). The base layer of claim 29, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates from 0.01% to 0.5%, by weight, of zirconium.

39 (new). The base layer of claim 38, wherein the aluminium matrix incorporates from 0.05% to 0.23%, by weight, of zirconium.